

Rifampin (oral)

RIFAMPIN (rif-AM-pin) is used to treat tuberculosis (TB), usually in combination with one or more other TB medicines. Rifampin may also be used to treat other medical problems.

Tell your doctor, nurse, and pharmacist if you:

- have allergies;
- are pregnant or plan to become pregnant;
- are breast-feeding;
- are taking any other prescription medicines, including birth control pills and blood thinners. BIRTH CONTROL PILLS containing estrogen *may not* work while you are taking Rifampin. Talk with your reproductive health care provider about other methods of birth control to avoid pregnancy.
- are taking any over-the-counter medicines such as cold medicines and pain relievers (Tylenol®, Advil®, Motrin®, aspirin)
- have any other medical problems including alcohol use or liver disease.

Take This Medicine:

- exactly the way your doctor told you. DO NOT stop taking this medicine until you are told to do so, even if you feel better.
- with a full glass of water on an empty stomach (either 1 hour before or 2 hours after meals). If this medicine upsets your stomach, you may take it with some food.

- On a regular schedule. Side effects may become more bothersome if the medicine is not taken as scheduled.

Warning:

- This medicine will cause the urine, stool, saliva, sputum, sweat, and tears to turn orange or red in color.
- This medicine may also STAIN clothes and soft contact lenses.
- Rifampin can temporarily lower the number of white blood cells, increasing the chance of getting an infection. It can also lower the number of platelets, which are needed for proper blood clotting. BE CAREFUL when brushing or flossing, as you may be more susceptible to infections and gum disease. Check with your doctor and dentist before you have dental work done.
- Limit the amount of alcohol you drink while on this medicine to avoid possible liver problems. Alcohol may also decrease the effectiveness of this medicine.
- Do not miss any doses. If you miss a dose, take the missed dose as soon as you remember. Skip the missed dose if it is almost time for your next regularly scheduled dose. DO NOT take two doses at the same time.

- Do not share your medicine with others.
- Keep this and all other medicines out of the reach of children.
- Visit your doctor regularly.
- Store your medicine in a cool dry place, away from extreme heat or cold.
- If you think you may have taken an overdose of this medicine, check with your doctor.
- Do not drive or attempt dangerous jobs if this medicine makes you dizzy.

Possible side effects of the medicine include:

- Diarrhea
- Stomach cramps

Tell your doctor right away if you notice any of these RARE side effects:

- Fever or chills
- Dizziness
- Headache
- Difficulty breathing
- Skin rash, redness, or itching
- Muscle and bone pain;
- Bloody or cloudy urine;
- Decreased frequency of urination or decreased amount of urine;
- Nausea, vomiting or loss of appetite;
- Sore throat;
- Unusual bruising or bleeding;
- Unusual tiredness or weakness;
- Yellow eyes or skin.

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